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16,666 WIVES WORTH ONE TOE!!!

BY JACQUES LA TOUR.

The United States of America has scored another triumph in the realm of discovery. It took an American court to place a monetary value of only 6 cents on a wife.

The other day one of your New York courts found a man guilty of alienating the affections of his mate. What did the court do to punish that man? It assessed 5 cents damages. The husband, whose name was carried in the press dispatches as William J. Reimel, thought it was worth \$10,000 to lose the affection of his beloved. He brought suit for that sum and in court told of the terrible heart strain resulting from the loss of his wife, James D. Thom, the defendant.

The same day in the same courthouse a jury was hearing the case of Miss Nancy Ericson, 17 years old, who had lost a toe. Oh, it was a valuable toe, indeed. Without that toe she would be disgraced for life, she would be unable to be a great toe dancer and she would be unable to walk as gracefully as she had in the past. Furthermore the loss of the toe had caused her great physical and mental anguish. Indeed Miss Ericson was a sad girl when she faced the jurors and wept out the tale of her lost toe. The jury was sad, and after due deliberation awarded her \$1,000.

Therefore a toe is worth 16,666 times more than a wife. The reckoning is not so dreadfully bad, for a toe will never grow again. A wife can be had for the marrying, so the loss of a wife is not to be deplored so much according to the rulings of the American court.

But I believe the court ruling tends to work disaster on the American home. While the question has been handled flippantly by the people in general I believe it is a question for serious thought. How much is a wife worth? Surely the affection of a good wife is worth more than many toes.

Let us put the question to the men of the country. What is your wife worth? Would you sacrifice your wife for your toes or would you give one toe for a wife. The trouble with the average American is that he would give all his toes and heels too, for a wife before he is married. Several years later he would trade her off and would give his toes and heels to get rid of her. I suppose the jury must have been a jury of married ones who couldn't appreciate the value of a good wife.

Perhaps the toe jury feared there would be no toe dancers left if they did not assess heavy damages for

the loss of the toe.

There are toes which fortunes could not buy and which have made fortunes for their owners. In my native Paris there is a school where dancers are taught the use of the toe and the best toe dancers come from that school. They learn to dance quite young and the development of the toe is wonderful. They can stand on the tips of their toes for a long time and are able to dance on the tips of their toes in their bare feet for many minutes. These toe dancers have their toes insured when they go on the stage for the loss of a toe means the loss of employment. It would be awful for a toe dancer to go on the stage with one toe missing. Even if her dancing should not be impaired it would mean that those who turn the opera glasses at her feet would note the disfigurement.

FORTUNES CAN BE READ BY LOOKING AT TOES.

Fortunes can be read by the toes. In the olden times when all persons wore sandals the toe was an index of fortune and fortune tellers looked at the toes as carefully as they looked at the hands and the face. When the great toe turned outward it was a sign of self-reliance and hardness. When the great toe was straight to the front it was a sign of ready compliance with the will of others. It showed the owner of the toes was willing to be a follower instead of a leader. The spreading toes indicated the leader.

The great toe turning inward was a sign of backwardness and lack of self-reliance. All great toes turn inward now. That is due to the shoe. The shoe has all but ruined the foot, but there are perfect feet to be found at times even now. They are worn by people who wear healthful sandals. I have found perfect feet in Holland also. I think the wooden shoe of the Hollanders permits of perfection more readily than the leather shoe of the Americans.

A fortune teller cannot do much toward telling the fortune in looking at the toes of an American. There are certain points about the toe which can still be read. If the second and third toes are not completely divided it shows a spendthrift disposition. The second and third toes should be divided as far back as the rest of the toes for economy.

When the eugenic law goes into effect it is probable that the eugenic examiners will examine the toes. It would be good for both prospective husbands and wives if they examined each other's feet before marrying.

If a thorough examination of the feet was given, each could learn of the other's faults and protect himself accordingly. Then there would be less opportunity for suits for alienation of affection. I want to call attention particularly to the corns on the feet. To women, I would advise that you examine the soles of the feet of your prospective husband. If he has a tendency to develop corns on the soles of his feet right back of the second toe, watch him. It means he may be cruel and if he is in the right environment he may develop into a

man who has inherited evil tendencies can overcome them by faithful endeavor, but if he is careless he will not think of overcoming them. You may say that it is the fault of the shoes that the men have corns.

I will admit that is true to a limited extent. But suppose there are two men who go into the same store and are fitted with the same make and size of shoes by the same clerk.



It's Worth Only Six Cents in New York to Lose the Love of a Mate But Woe Unto the Man Who Causes a Girl to Lose Her Pedal Extremities.



Suppose these men are the same age and are twin brothers. Suppose their feet are the same size as nearly as the clerk can tell. One of these men will go out and wear his shoes without developing corns. The other may have corns on all his toes from the same make of shoe.

The answer is easy. The two men have different kinds of feet and have different temperaments. Temperament has much to do with the way corns are developed, just as it has a great deal to do with the way shoes are worn out. I would advise all of you to watch the shoes and see how they are worn. I will not be able to fake up the problem of shoeology at this time, but suffice it to say that a shoemaker can tell the character of his customers by their shoes.

TOES BETTER THAN SHOES, SAYS EXPERT.

A cobbler will look at a pair of shoes when a customer comes to his shop and ask for credit. If the shoes are worn in a manner to suit the cobbler he will give credit. If they are worn in another way the cobbler will refuse credit. There are few of the old time fortune telling cobblers left, but in other days there were hundreds of them.

Now if a man can tell fortunes by the toes of the feet, I recognize character by the corns better than any other means. There are some persons who never have corns. They wear such shapely shoes they are always in the best of health as regards their feet. But when corns develop watch. As I said a corn on the bottom of the foot just back of second toe shows a man has characteristics of a wife beater. He may not have developed his tendencies, but they are there just the same.

There are other feet which will develop corns on the small toe. If the toe is a woman's she is a good woman to marry. She is likely to allow herself to be run over and will never be a scold. Corns on the little toe mean in a woman that she recognizes in man that he is the lord of creation and she is nothing but an insignificant part of humanity.

A corn on the small toe of a man is a bad sign. It means the man is stingy and will not take good care of the home. He will allow the butcher bills to go unpaid and he will expect the best of food on the least sum of money. Corns on the small toe are caused by wearing tight shoes partly, but they are caused primarily by the growth of a character bump on the small toe. This character bump means one

thing in woman and another thing in man. A character bump on the side of the foot back of the little toe means strength of character in both men and women. When the bump is on the side of the foot back of the great toe it means willingness to sacrifice for the good of others whether the owner be man or woman.

Eugenic doctors will doubtless make a study of the foot in the future and will examine the feet to determine whether the owner is worthy to marry or not.

In olden times it used to be customary for men in making a contract to exchange shoes. The men would look at the shoe of the other and tell whether he was dealing with a liar. If he should be dealing with a liar it would be to his advantage to learn of it.

But in these days we take no steps to guard ourselves against dealing with liars even if we are going to sign a contract to live with the other party for life. It may be the other party does not know he is a liar. He may swear his heart away and still be false down in his feet. He may think he loves the woman he is asking to be his wife, when in reality he loves only his money and his own comfort. It may be he thinks he is charmed by the witching eyes of the other partner of his life when in reality he is so selfish he does not want some other fellow to have her. Then in a few years he wakes up and the whole structure he has built up goes to smash. Man has to value his wife more than a chorus girl's toes before there will be real happiness in the home.

Paid Too Soon.
The young man hesitated to believe the statement of her little brother that the young lady was not at home. He repeated the question, at the same time displaying a quarter. The boy eyed it longingly and again replied in the negative.

"But didn't she leave a message for me?" asked the disappointed swain.

"Yes sir," said the lad—and nothing more.

As one who sees a great light, the young man tossed him the coin. "Now," he said "out with the message."

"She said she's not gonna see you any more and you're not to give me any money."

Patent Office Receipts.
During the year 1914 the surplus receipts of the Patent Office were increased \$114,122 over 1913. The Patent Office pays its own expenses, and during 1914 yielded a surplus revenue of \$251,000.

CAPT. SEGER WRITES OF TRADITIONS OF INDIANS AS TOLD TO HIM BY RED MEN WHOSE CONFIDENCE HE WON

There is perhaps no white man in Western Oklahoma who so completely is in the confidence of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians as Capt. John H. Seger, whose life work has been the uplift and civilization of the Indian race. He came to Oklahoma in 1872, where he was placed in charge of the Indian school at Darlington.

Captain Seger has recently published a pamphlet, entitled "Tradition of the Cheyenne Indians," which reveals many of the sacred beliefs of the tribe. The revelations which to the Cheyennes are as holy as the Bible is to the Christian, shows the history of this interesting race from its earliest beginnings. It doesn't differ much from the stories of the development of any other branch of the human family, and the old axiom "Necessity is the mother of invention," played an important part in the race history.

The various episodes which make up this tradition were revealed to Captain Seger by a Cheyenne chief, who, after having embraced the Christian religion, felt no longer compelled to revere his solemn oath which he had given as the follower of the "Great Spirit." Perhaps the fact that the younger generation of Indians is forsaking the old ways and accepts more and more the ways and customs of the white people may have had something to do with the old chief's willingness to part with the secrets that had been entrusted to him as one of two representatives of his tribe.

The common belief has been that in earlier days the chief occupation of the Indian was the hunting of buffalo. According to Captain Seger the Cheyennes planted corn long before they hunted buffalo, and seemingly it was the greed of the white man that forced the Cheyennes to

forsake their agricultural pursuit for the occupation of hunting.

The first known Cheyennes lived in a severely cold climate. They gathered food, which consisted of squirrels, young panthers and bird eggs. Families were not in existence. Children were born, of course, but were cared for only at their earliest age. The tribe increased and food diminished. An interesting story tells how this shortage of food was overcome. A mother had lost her young baby which she had been nursing. Soon afterward she found a cubby of young panthers. She took one of them away with her. Its whining reminded her of the cry of her little baby. She held it to her breast and nursed it. An affection sprang up and as the young panther grew it would kill deer and other game for its foster mother. The example of this mother was imitated, and soon many young

panthers furnished and gathered the food supply for the entire tribe. The necessity for skinning the game brought about the invention of knives which at first were stones with sharp edges. The hides were found to be a comfortable protection against the weather.

Children and women were frequently stolen by other tribes and self-preservation necessitated the use of clubs and stones as the first primitive weapons.

The story of the Biblical flood, too, appears in the Cheyenne tradition. It is supposed to have taken place in the Missouri Valley. The story differs in many respects from the accepted version. While many members of the tribe lost their lives in the flood, a large number escaped the "swimming water" by swimming to the mountains. Their panthers had been lost, and the source of food supply had vanished. Their

ingenuity saved them. They began to catch fish. This was done by trapping. A bait was placed in the brook where the water was shallow. Then the fish would be driven toward this place, and the Indians would catch them with their hands or kill them with clubs and stones. Faith in a "Great Spirit" is mentioned first in the early history when a mighty warrior arose in the tribe. Whenever he participated in a battle or fight, the Cheyennes could not lose. Soon the legend was told about him that he had been made invincible by a superhuman being, the "Great Spirit."

The "Great Spirit," too, revealed to them, through one of the old women, the secret of growing corn. For many years the Cheyennes raised corn in abundance. On one occasion, however, white men appeared, found the corn the Indians had stored away. The white men

took all the corn with them and did not leave any for seed. Thus the Indians were forced to gain their sustenance by the killing and eating of buffalo. The Cheyennes still believe that had it not been for this thoughtless or greedy act of the white man they might not have been compelled to spend their whole lives in the pursuit of hunting.

The buffaloes moved south, and the Indians had to follow them in order not to get away from their "base of supply." While the men hunted the women moved the camp. On this trip south, the Indians saw the first ponies, which were being ridden by Mexicans. A delegation of Indians made an expedition into Mexico and captured an entire herd, and beginning with that day the pony began to play an important part in the life of the Indians. In fact, it became the standard of val-

ue. To "swap" ponies is still the delight of an Indian.

Shortly after the great flood a band of Cheyennes drifted away from the tribe, was lost and has not been heard of since. When a Cheyenne meets a member of a strange tribe, he at once begins to inquire as to his origin, still hoping that he might be a member of the lost band that disappeared at that time.

Royal.
He—She's a thoroughly queenly woman.
She—Yes; even her teeth have gold crowns.—Town Topics.

Handicapped.
"How out of style she looks!"
"Why not? Her whole allowance for clothes is only three-quarters of her husband's salary."—Life.